

REMARKS

Reconsideration is respectfully requested in view of the foregoing amendments and the remarks which follow.

Claims 9, 26 and 30 have been amended herein and such amendments are fully-supported in the as-filed specification.

Claims 11 and 15 have been cancelled herein without prejudice or disclaimer.

Claims 1-8, 16-25 have been withdrawn.

The claims presently pending before the Examiner are 9-14 and 26-35.

A new Abstract of Disclosure is presented on a separate sheet attached hereto. The Abstract now meets the requirements of MPEP 608.01(b) and, accordingly, the objection thereto has been overcome and should be withdrawn.

The objection to claim 15 has been rendered moot in view of its having been cancelled herein.

Claims 9-15 and 26-35 stand rejected under 35 USC § 112, second paragraph for indefiniteness.

In view of the amendment of claim 9 to delete the term "*possibly*", the rejection of claim 9 and also claims 10-15 and 26-35 has been overcome and should be withdrawn.

In claim 11, the word "*possibly*" has been deleted from claim 11. Accordingly, the rejection of claim 11, has been overcome and should be withdrawn.

Since the word "*possibly*" has been deleted from claim 26, its rejection under § 112, along with the rejection of claim 27, has been overcome and should be withdrawn.

Claim 26 has been amended to delete "hydroxy derivative" and to insert in its stead - an hydroxy-containing compound --. Thus, the rejection of claim 26 under § 112, and also of claim 27, has been overcome and should be withdrawn.

Claims 9-10, 15, 26 and 28-35 have been rejected under 35 USC § 112, first paragraph, as failing to comply with the written description requirement. This rejection is respectfully traversed.

The “*oxygen protecting group*” has now been defined as being “selected from the group consisting of isobutyl chloroformate, a carbodiimide and a carbodiimide in combination with a hydroxy containing compound, phosphonium salts N-oxide guanidine salts or uronium salts”.

The coupling agent in claim 9 has been amended and now recites that, “R is a group selected from benzotriazole and benzotriazole substituted with a member selected from the group consisting of halogen, azabenzotriazole and succinimidyl;”.

Claim 11 has been amended to recite “wherein R₄ is a linear or branched C1-C4 alkyl group, phenyl and phenyl substituted with a member selected from the group consisting of a halogen atom, benzyl and benzoyl.

Claim 26 has been amended to recite that the “coupling agent” is selected from the group consisting of “isobutyl chloroformate, a carbodiimide and a carbodiimide in combination with a hydroxy containing compound, phosphonium salts, N-oxide guanidine salts or uronium salts.”

It is respectfully submitted that in view of the foregoing amendments, the rejection under 35 USC § 112, first paragraph, has been overcome. Withdrawal of the rejection is, accordingly, respectfully solicited.

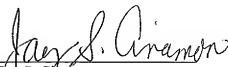
Since the objections and rejections of record have been overcome, the issuance of a Notice of Allowance is respectfully requested.

Please charge any fees which have not been submitted herewith to our Deposit
Account No. 01-0035.

Respectfully submitted,

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